

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-31 are pending. Claims 1-31 stand rejected.

In this response, claims 1-13 have been canceled without prejudice. Claim 14 has been amended to correct a typographical error. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Applicants have canceled claims 1-13 without prejudice.

Claims 1-31 stand provisionally rejected on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 and 27-135 of co-pending U.S. Application No. 09/989,736.

Applicants submit herewith a timely filed Terminal Disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR § 1.321 and authorization to charge Deposit Account 022666 for the disclaimer fee.


Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that claims 14-31 are now allowable.

In view of the foregoing, applicants respectfully submit the present application is now in condition for allowance. Please charge Deposit Account No. 022666 for any shortage of fees in connection with this response.

Respectfully submitted,

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